

In the Claims

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

1 1. [Currently amended] A method for operating a client to
2 establish a network connection with a server, comprising the
3 steps of:

4 negotiating environment parameters for establishing a
5 connection-oriented connection with said server;

6 said parameters including a request for said server to
7 provide a confirmation record containing descriptive
8 information about a connection which is held for the
9 duration of a file transfer or dialog; and

10 responsive to said request, receiving said confirmation
11 record.

1 2. [Original] The method of claim 1, said request being
2 an implicit request.

1 3. [Original] The method of claim 1, said request being
2 an explicit request.

1 4. [Original] The method of claim 1, said confirmation
2 record including a device name assigned by said server to
3 said client connection.

1 5. [Original] The method of claim 4, said confirmation
2 record including a response code indicative of the cause of
3 a failed connection.

1 6. [Original] The method of claim 5, responsive to said
2 response code, retrying said negotiating step.

1 7. [Original] The method of claim 1, said client being a
2 Telnet client, and said negotiating step including
3 negotiating new environment and terminal type parameters.

1 8. [Currently amended] A method for operating a server in

2 a network, comprising the steps of:

3 receiving a connection request from a client;

4 inviting said client to negotiate environment
5 parameters;

6 responsive to client acceptance, negotiating said
7 parameters;

8 assigning a virtual device name to said client; and

9 responsive to receiving a request for a confirmation
10 record, providing to said client a confirmation record
11 containing descriptive information about a connection
12 which is held for the duration of a file transfer or
13 dialog including, for a successful connection, said
14 virtual device name and, for an unsuccessful
15 connection, a return code indicative of the cause of
16 failure of said connection.

1 9. [Currently amended] A system, comprising:

2 a client;

3 a server;

4 a connection network for interconnecting said client
5 and server; and

6 said server selectively operable responsive to a
7 request for a confirmation record containing
8 descriptive information about a connection which is
9 held for the duration of a file transfer or dialog from
10 said client during negotiations for a connection
11 oriented connection for providing in said confirmation
12 record to said client, for a successful connection, a
13 virtual device name assigned by said server to said
14 client and, for an unsuccessful connection, a return
15 code indicative of a cause of failure of said
16 connection.

1 10. [Original] The system of claim 9, said server being a
2 Telnet server and said client a Telnet client.

1 11. [Original] The system of claim 10, said connection
2 oriented protocol being a Telnet protocol according to which
3 new environment parameters including an express or implicit
4 request for said confirmation record may be negotiated.

1 12. [Currently amended] A program storage device readable
2 by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for
4 operating a client to establish a network connection with a
5 server, said method steps comprising:

6 negotiating environment parameters for establishing a
7 connection-oriented connection with said server;

8 said parameters including a request for said server to
9 provide a ~~confirmation~~ status record; and

10 responsive to said request, receiving said ~~confirmation~~
11 status record.

1 13. [Currently amended] A program storage device readable
2 by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions

executable by a machine to perform method steps for
operating a server in a network, said method steps
comprising:

receiving a connection request from a client;

inviting said client to negotiate environment
parameters;

responsive to client acceptance, negotiating said
parameters;

assigning a virtual device name to said client; and

responsive to receiving a request for a ~~confirmation~~
status record, providing to said client a ~~confirmation~~
status record including, for a successful connection,
said virtual device name and, for an unsuccessful
connection, a return code indicative of the cause of
failure of said connection.

14. [Currently amended] A computer program product or
computer program element for operating a client to establish

3 a network connection with a server according to method steps
4 comprising:

5 negotiating environment parameters for establishing a
6 connection-oriented connection with said server;

7 said parameters including a request for said server to
8 provide a ~~confirmation~~ status record; and

9 responsive to said request, receiving said ~~confirmation~~
10 status record.

1 15. [Currently amended] A computer program product or
2 computer program element for operating a server in a network
3 according to method steps comprising:

4 receiving a connection request from a client;

5 inviting said client to negotiate environment
6 parameters;

7 responsive to client acceptance, negotiating said
8 parameters;

9 assigning a virtual device name to said client; and

10 responsive to receiving a request for a ~~confirmation~~

11 status record, providing to said client a ~~confirmation~~

12 status record including, for a successful connection,

13 said virtual device name and, for an unsuccessful

14 connection, a return code indicative of the cause of

15 failure of said connection.